

60,130-1291
OOMRA0622REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1-15 and 17-24 are currently pending and stand finally rejected by the Examiner. Applicants have amended claims 1, 11, and 24. Claims 6, 9, 10, 13, 18, 20 are withdrawn and claim 16 is cancelled. The foregoing amendment and the following remarks place this application in condition for allowance or, in the alternative, in better form for appeal. Entry of this Amendment is therefore respectfully requested.

§ 102 rejection

Claims 1-5, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35. U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,649,726 to Rogers Jr. et al. ("Rogers"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant respectfully notes that the Examiner appears to have considered the subject matter of the amended claims in responding to Applicant's November 18, 2003 arguments, and therefore the amended claims do not constitute new material requiring further consideration and/or search. The Final Office Action agreed that the motor shown in Rogers is powered in one direction to move the output member in the locked position and in another direction to move the output member in the unlocked position (p. 6), but stated that the phrase "differing output positions of the output member" does not clearly delineate the claims. Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 24 to clarify that the motor is powered in a single direction to move the output member from a first output position to a second output position and from a second output position to a first output position. This change specifically claims what the differing output positions of the output member comprise and clarify the directions in which the output member moves between the differing output positions as the motor powers in the single direction.

Rogers fails to disclose moving the inside locking lever 372 from a first position to a second position and from a second position to a first position while the motor 310 is rotated in a single direction. Instead, as noted in the previous response, Rogers teaches driving the motor 310 in two directions, not one; the motor 310 drives the gear wheel 318 to move in a counter-clockwise direction 316, thereby moving the locking lever from an unlocked position to a locked

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position, and a clockwise direction 314, thereby moving the locking lever from the locked position to the unlocked position (Figure 8).

Independent claims 1 and 24, on the other hand, recite a motor that is powered in a single direction to move the output member both from the first to the second output position and from the second to the first output position. Thus, Rogers does not disclose the claimed system. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

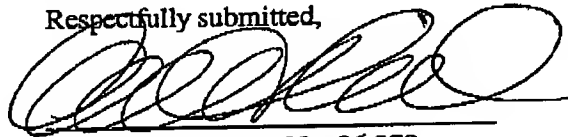
§ 103 rejection

Claim 22 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rogers. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Claim 22 depends on patentable claim 1 and is therefore also patentable for the reasons explained above. Withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, (703) 872-9306, on February 17, 2004.



Beth A. Beard